

RAB Minutes

NAS North Island

Restoration Advisory Board

CTO-057

Subject: RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 18, 1995

The nineteenth Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting for Naval Air Station (NAS) North Island was held on Wednesday, October 18, 1995 in the Winn Room at the Coronado Public Library from 6:30 p.m. to 8:10 p.m.

Mr. Arno Bernardo, Navy Co-Chair for the NAS North Island RAB, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Bernardo began the meeting with a brief outline of the evening's key topics: an update on the Shoreline Slag Emergency Removal Action; an update on the Sites 9 and 11 Removal Action; an update on the expanded Petrex sampling at Site 9; an update on the Removal Action at Site 1; an update on RAB membership recruitment process; an update on the Site 2 Removal Action; a reminder about the Sites 4, 6, and 10 Visitor's Day; and an update on the Op/Ed piece.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from the September 14, 1995 RAB Meeting

- The September 14, 1995 RAB meeting minutes were accepted and approved with two abstentions and one amendment. A change was made to line one of the second bullet on page three. The line now reads: Mr. Magee explained that **35** total verification samples were taken on the shoreline in the area around where the slag was removed.

Update on the Shoreline Slag Emergency Removal Action at Site 10

Mr. Mike Magee, Installation Restoration (IR) Program Manager for NAS North Island, provided an update on the Shoreline Slag Emergency Removal Action at the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office - Site 10 (DRMO).

- Mr. Magee's update began with a review of the past and future schedule for the shoreline slag emergency removal action. Key dates include: a September 13 NAS North Island team meeting held to discuss follow-on activities with response to the emergency removal action; in response to concern that contamination was left at the site, expedited soil sampling was conducted in some portions of the area where the slag was on September 28; 6 additional samples were taken at the site

of the slag and leaching tests were conducted on October 6; the Navy sent a letter to the California Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Department of Toxic Substances Control designating the slag disposal area as Installation Restoration (IR) Program Site 10 on October 17; and the mobilization for the Phase II portion of the emergency removal action will occur between October 30 and November 22.

- In response to a RAB member question, Mr. Magee stated that the soil contaminated with metals will be treated, along with all other contaminated soil, off-site at Envirocare. Envirocare will do the treatment and stabilization of the metals.
- Mr. Magee stated that a characterization and risk evaluation will take place at the site to determine if further investigation is needed. If the site presents a large risk, the Navy will pursue the remediation of the site. Mr. Bill Collins, NAS North Island Team Leader for Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest Division (SWDIV), added that limited sampling at the site will be conducted under the Bioassay and Environmental Sampling Plan (BESAP) in order to sample for metals and prepare for an additional radiation investigation.
- Mr. Magee explained that the site has been bound by a fence that goes down into the water and runs along the shoreline. The fence serves to prevent future leaching of contamination. The sediments at the site will be monitored through the work associated with Site 1 - Shoreline Sediments; the general area of the site will be monitored through the Site 10 work.

Update on the Removal Action at Sites 9 and 11

Mr. Richard Mach, Remedial Project Manager with SWDIV, provided an update on the Removal Action planned for the Chemical Waste Disposal Area (Site 9) and the Industrial Waste Treatment Plant (Site 11).

- Mr. Mach briefly reviewed the previously discussed potential problem with using a Removal Action Plan (RAP) or a Removal Action Workplan (RAW). In response to a request by the California Environmental Protection Agency's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), the Navy has decided to revise the previously written Action Memorandum (AM)/RAW and go forward with an AM/RAP. The regulatory citations that state which part of the document met the AM/RAW requirements, and references to an imminent or substantial endangerment determination for Site 11 will be taken out.
- The revised document is due from the contractor to the Navy on October 20, 1995. The public comment period for the document will commence on November 1, 1995 and close on November 30, 1995.

- A community meeting, for the purpose of receiving comments on the document, will be held during the first 30 minutes of the RAB meeting scheduled for November 9, 1995 in the Winn Room of the Coronado Public Library.
- Mr. Mach noted that a draft workplan, a detailed description of the actual work to be conducted as part of the removal action, is also being written. The draft workplan is due from the remediation contractor to the Navy on October 27, 1995 for an internal Navy review. The public comment period is tentatively scheduled for the period of November 20, 1995 to December 20, 1995.
- Mr. Mach stated that a copy of the draft workplan will be sent to DTSC for their use, but not review, in preparing the required California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation. It is anticipated that the CEQA documentation will be ready two to three weeks after the review period for the draft workplan begins. The Navy also anticipates that the contractor will go into the field by the end of December to set up temporary facilities, and begin the actual fieldwork in January.
- Mr. Mach continued with an overview of the work planned for each of the sites. At Site 9, soil vapor extraction will be implemented. Horizontal wells as well as vacuum wells which extract the volatile organic compounds (VOCs) out of the vadose zone (the area between the ground surface and the top of the groundwater) will be installed at the site. Injection wells that will inject fresh air into the subsurface soil, thus replacing the air extracted through the vacuum wells, will also be used at Site 9. The injection wells will help push the contaminants toward the extraction wells. The extraction wells will reduce the amount of contaminants that are on-site. The soil vapor extraction process will take place at Areas 1 and 3 of Site 9.
- Mr. Mach reviewed the work planned for Site 11. Soil vapor extraction will also be implemented at Site 11. However, vertical wells will be utilized rather than horizontal wells like those planned for Site 9. (The vertical wells were selected for Site 11 due to the distance of the vadose zone, 25 - 27 feet. Horizontal wells will be implemented at Site 9 due to the 8 - 10 foot vertical distance of the vadose zone.) This process is planned for three areas at Site 11: areas 1, 2, and 3 by sledge beds 7, 8, 9, and 10; the area by the old oily waste treatment plant; and the area by the caustic beds. Air sparging will take place at area 1 only. The air sparging process involves pumping air down into the groundwater to volatilize some of the VOCs that are in the shallow groundwater aquifer. The air sparging process will reduce the volume of contaminants in the groundwater.

Update on the Expanded Petrex Sampling at Site 9

Mr. Bill Collins provided an update on the Petrex Sampling at Site 9.

- Mr. Collins reviewed the activities that have occurred at the site. Several months ago, compliance wells were placed at the site. SWDIV thought the wells were placed into a clean area, but the wells proved that there was some contamination. In response to the findings, it was decided that the geology of the site would be reevaluated in an attempt to understand why the contamination is present in a particular area and not in the area surrounding the contaminated area. Mr. Collins explained that samplers were placed at the site on the shoreline; the samplers detected an area that had soil gas contamination that matched the contamination of an area further south on the shoreline. In order to examine the water on a closer level, it was decided that a video would be taken of the bay near the area of Site 9.
- Mr. Collins explained that the contamination found through the samplers was detected in ions. The ion count does not, however, mean that measurable contamination is going into the bay. It can not be determined, through an ion count, where the contamination is coming from. It is anticipated that the source of the contamination will be determined through the follow-up sampling.
- Mr. Collins stated that seepage meters were put on the bottom of the bay floor to measure if there was a flow of water from the bay into the ground at certain times of the day or a flow from the ground back out.

Update on the Removal Action at Site 1

Mr. Collins discussed the removal action planned for the shoreline sediments (Site 1).

- Mr. Collins stated that a Time-Critical Removal Action (TCRA) will be implemented at the site. A fact sheet will accompany the TCRA to explain to the public the history of the site, the purpose of the removal action, and the actual removal action process to be implemented.
- Mr. Collins explained the details of the TCRA. The site will be covered with a blanket of 40 feet of soil with an asphalt cover. The area that is to be covered is less than 14 acres and will extend off-shore approximately 500 feet. The basin of the channel along the shoreline will be filled in with dredged soil that has been deemed unsuitable for use as nourishment for beach-dwelling animals.

Update on the RAB recruitment process

Mr. Mach reviewed the steps that are being taken by Bechtel National Inc. (BNI) to recruit additional members for the RAB.

- Mr. Mach stated that BNI is doing the following outreach as an effort to recruit new RAB members: airing a Public Service Announcement on American Cablevision's Channel 12; sending out a flyer announcing the October 18 and November 9 RAB meeting as well as membership opportunities; sending out a

special letter to Coronado community organizations requesting their participation on the RAB; submitting press releases to the Coronado Eagle, the Coronado Journal, and the Compass for the October 18 and November 9 RAB meeting; placing display ads in the previously noted newspapers soliciting new members; and posting a flyer in conspicuous locations around Coronado announcing both the October 18 and November 9 RAB meetings. The following items are tentatively planned outreach efforts: placing an announcement in the NADEP newsletter; and attaching an announcement about the new member election at the November RAB meeting in the NAS North Island Plan of the Week newsletter that is read by all commands on the Station.

- Mr. Mach stated that new members will be accepted at the November 9 RAB meeting.

A motion was made to extend the term of the current Community Co-Chair, Dottie Marron, from November until January. The motion passed unanimously.

Update on the Site 2 Non-Time Critical Removal Action

Mr. Magee provided an update on the Old Spanish Bight Landfill (Site 2) Non-Time Critical Removal Action (NTCRA). He stated that it is anticipated that the Removal Action will begin in late November 1995.

- Mr. Magee stated that the term, Removal Action, is a misnomer because the risk to human health and the environment, not the actual soil, is going to be removed from the site. The risk will be removed by containing the landfill cut, resloping it and revegetating the site to prevent exposure.
- Mr. Magee noted that the Site 2 NTCRA Workplan will undergo Navy and regulatory review during the period of October 20, 1995 through November 20, 1995. He also stated that a fact sheet will be developed that summarizes the activities at the site. The fact sheet will be mailed out to the mailing list found in the Community Relations Plan.
- Mr. Magee added that the Action Memorandum for Site 2 underwent the Navy's internal review process and was found to be unsatisfactory. The document is currently being revised and is expected to be approved by NAS North Island's Commanding Officer, Captain Steuer in the first week of November. Ideally, the Navy would like to start the removal action, which is expected to take one month, at the end of November.
- Mr. Magee stated that concern has been voiced over the two small pieces of radiation found at the site. One piece has been removed from the site and taken to a laboratory for analysis; the second piece is buried under the soil at the site. Mr. Collins said that a decision has not yet been made regarding disposal of the

second piece of radiation, but a potential solution is sending it to Envirocare for treatment and disposal. He stated that a meeting has been scheduled for October 19 to discuss alternatives for disposal of the second piece of concern.

Reminder about the Sites 4, 6, and 10 Visitor's Day

Mr. Mach reminded those present of the tour scheduled for the Public Works Salvage Yard (Site 4), the Heritage Park Public Works Salvage Yard (Site 6), and the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (Site 10). The tour will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., October 21, 1995.

- Mr. Mach reviewed the agenda for the site tour. A project overview and a detailed program description will be provided at the meeting proceeding the tour. A film created by the EPA's Superfund Innovate Technology Evaluation (SITE) program will be shown prior to the tour.

Update on the Opinion/Editorial (Op/Ed) Piece

Ms. Laura Hunter, RAB member, discussed the status of the Op/Ed piece.

- Ms. Hunter submitted the piece to Mr. Bernie Jones at the San Diego Union-Tribune, however, it was not published. Ms. Hunter stated that she felt that the subject of the piece, federal funding, was a moot point due to the recent passing of the federal budget. Mr. Collins asked that Ms. Hunter resubmit the letter because SWDIV's "wish list", a list of projects that SWDIV hopes to complete in the fiscal year 1997, has not been granted yet. Ms. Hunter will resubmit the letter.
- Ms. Hunter added that the Environmental Health Coalition submitted a letter to the San Diego Congressional delegation requesting that they refund some of the money that was cut from DSMOA. Congressman Bob Filner also wrote several letters on the issue and has taken an interest in restoring the funding. Ms. Hunter offered to provide the addresses and names of the appropriate Congressional delegates to any individual interested in writing their own letter. In response to this discussion, RAB member Ms. Lois Ewen suggested that the local Congressional representatives visit the sites at NAS North Island. Mr. Bernardo pointed out that NAS North Island has had special visitors in the past, including the Secretary of the Navy and other Navy dignitaries.

General and Closing Questions and Answers/Comments

- Mr. Mach also informed those present that an additional posterboard, the third in a series, has been made. The subject of the posterboard is Bioassays.
- Mr. Mach distributed the current document review status sheet. He indicated that in the interest of conserving paper, the acronym list and the listing of documents

previously reviewed will no longer be included with each distribution of the status sheet. Both lists are available upon request.

- Ms. Marsha Mingay, Public Participation Specialist with DTSC, expressed concern that RAB members are not given the opportunity to review DTSC's comments on the documents that the RAB is asked to review. Ms. Mingay asked RAB members what they felt was the best way to provide comments to each member. It was decided by those present that Ms. Mingay will forward a copy of the comments to both Ms. Marron and Cynthia Bradbury, RAB member in charge of updating the information repositories. The information repository will now contain a comment binder that will be purged of old comments on an annual basis.

Mr. Bernardo adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

[The next RAB meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, November 9, 1995 at the Coronado Public Library in the Winn Room. Subsequent meetings will be held on Thursday, December 14, 1995; Wednesday, January 17, 1995; and Wednesday, February 21 in the same location.]